

## APPLICANT FEEDBACK SUMMARY

### 2013 AmeriCorps State and National Grant Competition

**Legal Applicant:** Napa County Office of Education

**Application ID:** 13ES147733

**Program Name:** CalSERVES VIP

For the purpose of enhancing our programs by improving the quality and quantity of applications to the Corporation for National and Community Service (CNCS), we are providing specific feedback regarding the strengths and weaknesses of this application. These comments are not meant to represent a comprehensive assessment; rather the analysis represents those elements that had the greatest bearing on the rating of the application. Please note that this feedback consists of summary comments from more than one reviewer. For this reason, some of the comments may seem to be inconsistent or contradictory. Comments are not representative of all of the information used in the final funding decision.

#### Reviewers' Summary Comments:

(+) Persuasive evidence of the identified needs of the target communities is provided with the use of statistics and appropriate literacy references. The applicant cites the need for more high-value volunteers, business support and donations.

(+) The applicant provides evidence that they have been working with AmeriCorps on this program with much success. Based on their experiences, they have increased the goals involving volunteer hours, added the dimension of recruiting volunteers specifically to support fundraising activities and increased the Member commitment to three years.

(+) The applicant will engage an external evaluator who will utilize data including the number of volunteers placed at target sites, site satisfaction with Member and volunteer services, and the number of volunteer hours logged, to measure program success and Member impact.

(+) The applicant's narrative provides data to support that if the program is not implemented in public schools how the schools will continue to underachieve.

(+) To describe how the proposed intervention will have a measureable community impact and explain the impact of AmeriCorps investment, the applicant provides a rubric showing how the investment in recruiting 100 volunteers can translate into exponential increases in fundraising, volunteer capacity, person hours, and Member development.

(-) Insufficient information is provided on the condition of the local nonprofits to determine the impact volunteers would have on them. Information on nonprofit staff capabilities and current infrastructure are not provided. Without this information, it is difficult to determine the needs of the organizations and the impact service Members and volunteers would have on the organizations.

(-) The applicant implies that the program approach is based on the High Value Volunteers (HVV) model. However insufficient information is provided on HVV to justify the selection of the approach.